



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Advisory

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**INTERNATIONAL AWARD WINNING AUTHOR EXPLORES THE
UNSOLVED DEATHS OF MORE THAN 400 YOUNG WOMEN ON
THE US/MEXICO BORDER**

The California Latino Legislative Caucus in partnership with Comcast join forces to address violence against women.

WHAT: Since 1993, over 400 women and girls have been killed in the cities of Juarez and Chihuahua. However, many of the murder cases remain unsolved. For years, Author Alicia Gaspar de Alba has taken the charge to raise awareness about the killings of these women and young girls in many ways including organizing the international conference "The Maquiladora Murders or, Who Is Killing the Women of Juarez?" in 2003 and through her riveting mystery novel 'Desert Blood: The Juarez Murders' about the ten-year crime wave. Earlier this month, 94 members of the U.S. House of Representatives led by California's own Congresswomen Hilda Solis urged Mexican President Felipe Calderon to increase efforts and support to fight violence against women in Mexico.

As leaders of California, the Latino Caucus in partnership with Comcast is convening the community and media to discuss with Author Alicia Gaspar de Alba the myriad of issues underlying the problems associated with violence against women.

WHEN: **Friday, August 31, 2007**
12:30 pm—1:30 pm

WHERE: **California State Capitol, Room 4202**

WHO:
-Alicia Gaspar de Alba, Author
-Assemblymember Joe Coto, California Latino Legislative Caucus, Chair
-Senator Gilbert Cedillo, California Latino Legislative Caucus, Vice Chair

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